

TIMELINEZ

Timex Director Billy Skyrme to speak at S.Bay group

T/S 1000 Word Processing SW Reviewed

Volume 2 Issue 1 January 14 \$1.00

TIMEX UPDATE

=====

NEW HARDWARE! What, when, and how much? Many rumors have been spread concerning TIMEX's future hardware releases. I will attempt to clarify some of those rumors with the help of a reliable "source" - all of this news can only be confirmed in time. I will start by describing known hardware (soon to be released) and moving towards items that have been discussed only in general terms before. (I will not discuss the 2068, Timex cassette recorder, or Joy-stick - look locally and you should be able to find them currently on sale.)

T/S TELECOMMUNICATIONS MODEM

PRICE: \$119.95 includes Smart

Terminal 1 Software

FEATURES: auto dial, auto answer direct connect (not acoustic), software for all 3 computers, menu driven, manual, 2 year warranty, membership in the

SOURCE

OPTIONS: Smart Terminal 2
Command Cartridge

PRICE: ?

FEATURES: auto dial 14 different phone numbers, each with own preset parameters. Save and load files of phone numbers. Store complex sequences for fast, easy log-on. Store data in buffer for later printing or transmission. Auto answer incoming call and store pages of information.

TIMEX MICRO-DRIVE

PRICE: \$69.95

FEATURES: typical access time of 3 seconds, 85K byte storage capacity, can use multiple drives for flexible program and data organization.

NOTE: needs interface, does not directly connect to 2068

TIMEX BUS EXPANSION UNIT

PRICE: \$99.95

FEATURES: RGB connections, Centronics port, RS232 Serial port, audio connection, Micro drive interface, 2068 bus buffer, 80 column - high resolution monochrome composite video

NOTE: will be shown with micro drives at the January CES

[CONT. 8]

SOUTH BAY T/S USER'S GROUP

January's meeting will be a special event. We are expecting Richard L. Huxtable of the American Head Trauma Alliance to speak about this worthwhile organization. Mr. Huxtable is flying in from Los Angeles.

We will also have a presentation on Timex's new 2068 color computer by Billy Skyrme, Director of Product Planning for Timex Computer Corporation. Mr. Skyrme is arriving from Waterbury, CT.

I had been expecting Dan Ross, Vice President of Timex Computer, to make the presentation, but have received word from him that he will be leaving Timex the end of February, 1984 and will not be able to attend. His resignation was announced in the 12-19-83 edition of "ELECTRONIC NEWS". The article states that this and other changes are an effort to bring computer operations into the corporate mainstream.

I also read a review of the 2068 in the 12-26-83 issue of "INFOWORLD". The article states that the 2068 "priced at under

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TIMELINEZ (C) IS THE JOINT PUBLICATION OF THREE TIMEX/SINCLAIR USER GROUPS IN THE SAN FRANCISCO / OAKLAND BAY AREA. OLD AND NEW MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME - SO ARE HARDWARE, SOFTWARE, AND COMPUTER BEGINNERS. SEE YOU AT THE NEXT MEETING.

TIMELINEZ

East Bay group info

American Head Trauma Alliance Update

In the last issue of TIMELINEZ we devoted most of our space to an organization formed to address the long term problems of the head injured population. The American Head Trauma Alliance is attempting to induce development of needed software in Sinclair Basic and TIMELINEZ decided to try to help.

We invited Mr. Richard Huxtable of the AHTA to tell us more about this project and he sent a great deal of information which we reproduced in our Christmas edition. This included a description of the prospective user, program goals, possible methodology & format and do's & don't's involved in this type of programming.

When programs are received by the AHTA, they will be reviewed by the Alliance's advisors and parent members. Suggestions will be made to improve the programs, and when they are perfected, they will be assembled into multiple task groups having common levels of difficulty, with menu access. Instruction manuals to guide therapists and parents in the use of the programs will be prepared. Finally, the news will go out to therapists, head injury organizations, hospital discharge administrators, psychologists, physicians and others, that there is cognitive rehabilitation software available for the \$80.00 computer all can afford.

Any user group member can be part of this worthwhile project. This would be an excellent chance to improve your programming skills in a structured setting. It also provides a definite reason for writing programs rather than just going through the motions with no particular goal in mind.

In order to find out more about this project, write TIMELINEZ and ask for the Christmas issue or write the AMERICAN HEAD TRAUMA ALLIANCE, P.O. Box 711046, Los Angeles, CA 90017.

TIMELINEZ would ask the group presidents to discuss this endeavor at their next meetings. How about a volunteer to coordinate a joint effort? Thousands of minds have shaped the computer, now the computer can help reshape the human mind.

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SINCLAIR
USERS
GROUP

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/OAKLAND BAY AREA COMPUTER
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THIRD THURSDAY OF EVERY MONTH
AT THE WEST BRANCH OF THE
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MEETINGS START AT 7:30 PM.

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TIMELINEZ

S. Bay group info

SOUTH BAY T/S USER GROUP

The next SB meeting will be Tuesday, Jan. 31, 1984 at 7 PM at Dysan Corporation Headquarters, 5201 Patrick Henry Dr, Santa Clara.

PRESIDENT

Rita Carr
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Pacifica CA 94044
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SOFTWARE REVIEW
BY
PAUL D. PERREAULT

.....
: REVIEW OF TEXTWRITER 1000 :
:
:

TYPE: WORD PROCESSING
PRICE: \$11.95 LISTING=\$5.95
ROM/RAM: 8K/16K
LISTING? YES
EASY TO USE? YES
WRITTEN IN BASIC
AUTHOR: ROBERT FINGERLE, 1983

THIS PROGRAM DOES A PRETTY GOOD JOB OF WORD PROCESSING. THIS REPORT IS WRITTEN USING THIS PROGRAM. UPON LOADING, THE USER IS PRESENTED WITH A MENU WHICH ALLOWS HIM/HER TO SELECT BETWEEN DISPLAYING THE CURRENT FILE, STARTING A NEW FILE, OR SAVING THE CURRENT FILE. THE AUTHOR SUGGESTS SAVING OFTEN WHEN WORKING ON LONG TEXTS. THE USER IS ALSO GIVEN THE CHOICE OF PRINTING WITH SINGLE OR DOUBLE SPACE.

THE FIRST THING A USER NOTICES IS A GLARING MAN/MACHINE INTERFACE ERROR. THE SPACE BAR HAS BEEN CHANGED TO A BREAK BAR. THE USER MUST HIT "ENTER" TO MAKE A SPACE. AT FIRST THIS WAS VERY DISCONCERTING. HOWEVER SOON I WAS ONLY MILDLY BOTHERED BY THIS FEATURE.

ONE VERY NICE FEATURE IS THE AUTOMATIC WRAP FUNCTION. THIS FUNCTION ALLOWS THE USER TO TYPE WITHOUT REGARD TO THE RIGHT HAND MARGIN. ANY WORD THAT EXTENDS BEYOND COLUMN 32 IS RELOCATED TO THE NEXT LINE, VERY HANDY, GIVEN OUR SHORT COLUMNS.

THE NORMAL CURSOR CONTROLS GIVE THE USER THE ABILITY TO CORRECT TEXT ANYWHERE ON THE PAGE, ALSO VERY CONVENIENT.

BUT THE FEATURES THAT MAKE THIS PROGRAM A WORD PROCESSOR

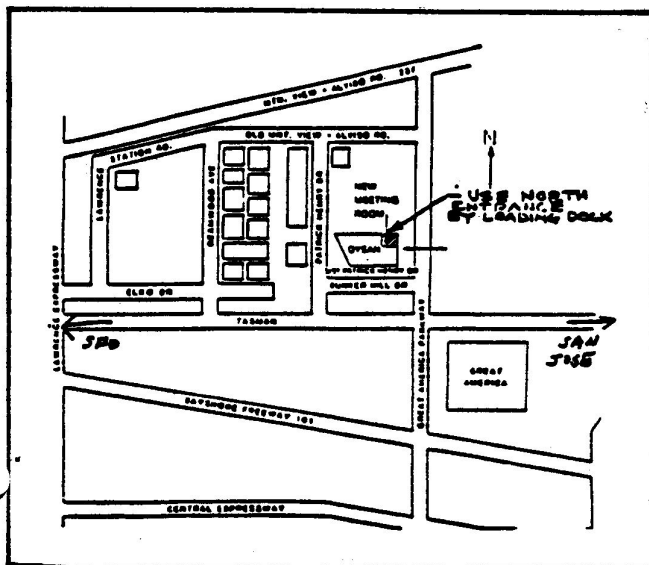
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JAN 31 MEETING AT
SOUTH BAY LOCATION

Timex 2068 Color Computer
Demonstration!

Presentation of American
Head Trauma Alliance (they
need programmers)!

At Dysan Corporation
Headquarters in Santa Clara
at 7 PM.



TIMELINEZ

Memotext reviewed

Memotext Review

Quite some time ago I purchased "Memotext", Memotech's ROM-based word processor. It was an irrational, impulsive purchase since I had no assurance that "Memotext" would work with my Timex printer (it won't), and Memotech's RS-232 interface, which would (I thought) allow me to use my borrowed Epson MX 80, remained back-ordered.

By the time the interface became available, I had had enough experience writing text on my screen and saving it on tape to be fairly impressed by "Memotext." But even Memotech seemed unable to shed enough light on the interface question to solve my problems (Hint: pin-for-pin printer cables, such as supplied by Memotech, don't work) and the Epson printer just gathered dust.

Now, after a hiatus which included a month's vacation overseas and further consultation with my friend Rick Marshall—who wishes I would dump this thing and get a "real" computer, I can demonstrate success.

"Memotext" is an ingenious solution to the T/S word processing dilemma. Since it is composed of machine code residing in ROM (addressed in the 8K-16K area), it is fast. One can proceed at full typing speed and "Memotext" has no trouble keeping up.

What slows one down is the extra keystrokes required to produce ASCII code for characters that are not part of the Sinclair character set. Generally, two or three strokes are required for such characters as "." or "!". Still, one must admire the fact that the full ASCII set is available.

Since the screen display remains in the T/S format, it is necessary to insert formatting commands in the text to control printer output. In general it is possible to take advantage of

most printer features available through this means. Theoretically, it should be possible to produce very sophisticated documents in this fashion. In practice, I find it useful to keep a supply of cheap 8 1/2" by 11" newsprint on hand for trial printouts before committing them to expensive bond.

"Memotext" supports usual word processor features such as "search" and "replace" strings, etc. In addition it provides a

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[CONT. 3]

ARE THE EDITING COMMANDS. THESE SIX COMMANDS ALLOW YOU TO ADD SPACES BETWEEN WORDS, TO ADD LINES IN BETWEEN LINES, TO DELETE LINES OF TEXT AND TO CONDENSE TEXT BY REMOVING EXTRANEOUS BLANK SPACES LEFT OVER FROM YOUR EDITING. THERE ARE ALSO TWO OTHER COMMANDS TO ALLOW THE TEXT TO BE SWITCHED BACK AND FORTH FROM MEMORY.

THERE ARE ALSO 7 HANDY CONTROL KEYS TO HELP YOU MOVE AROUND IN THE PROGRAM AND TO REVIEW YOUR MASTERPIECE.

NOW MY COMPLAINTS.
ALTHOUGH THE TWO FINGERED TYPIST

WILL HAVE NO PROBLEM, I FOUND THAT I COULD NOT TOUCH TYPE ON MY FANCY KEYBOARD AS FAST AS I WOULD LIKE. THE PROGRAM RAN A LITTLE TOO SLOW FOR ME.

IT'S TOO BAD THAT THAT THE PROGRAM CANT SAVE ONLY YOUR TEXT. HAVING TO SAVE BOTH THE PROGRAM AND YOUR TEXT USES UP ALOT OF TIME AND TAPE.

FINALLY, NOTE THAT ONE CAN NOT MOVE PARAGRAPHS AROUND WITH THIS TEXT EDITOR, ALTHO YOU CAN TRICK IT A LITTLE. HOWEVER I KNOW OF NO OTHER NON DISK BASED SYSTEM WHICH WILL.

I FOUND THIS PROGRAM EASY TO LEARN TO USE LARGELY BECAUSE THE AUTHOR PROVIDED A VERY WELL PREPARED USERS MANUAL WITH EXAMPLES. FURTHER, THE 8 PAGE MANUAL IS FULL SIZED (8.5x11) AND CONTAINS A LISTING OF THE PROGRAM. I FOUND THE PROGRAM EASY TO USE AND IT CERTAINLY SPEEDED UP PREPARATION OF THIS REPORT.

I FOUND A SMALL BUG WHICH IS NOW BEING CORRECTED BY THE AUTHOR. TO RECOVER FROM BEING KICKED OUT OF THE PROGRAM, TYPE GOTO 35 INSTEAD OF GOTO 40. THIS WILL RESET SOME VARIABLES WITHOUT HARMING YOUR TEXT IN MEMORY.

I RECOMMEND THIS TEXT EDITOR WITH ITS USERS MANUAL AS A VEY USEFUL ADDITION TO YOUR SOFTWARE LIBRARY.

Wow! A Real Word Processor For T/S It's The Word Sinc II by P. Hargrave!

Dear TIMELINEZ Friends;

At last, after searching all the articles I could find on inexpensive Word Processors for the T/S, I have found one that really works. It has many features you'd expect to find only in more advanced (and expensive) computers and programs. Also, it is fast--You can type at full speed and all functions are immediate, even large block moves.

Features

1. UPPER and lower case letters.
2. 42 characters per line instead of 32.
3. 20 new symbols: ' * + ! < + ↑ + + | [] % \ @ - _ π & #.
4. Free moving cursor with automatic scrolling.
5. A "user friendly" MENU with one key selection. It includes:
 1. START NEW--for a clean slate.
 2. CONTINUE--with previous text. (It starts where you left off even after a tape load)
 3. LIST--shows each screen of text at the press of a key.
 4. DELETE--any blocks of text.
 5. MOVE--text blocks to any place in text.
 6. SEARCH-- for any words or symbols.
 7. REPLACE--any text or symbols (such as names and addresses throughout text).
 8. PRINT--all or part of text. (Additional copies by pressing "Y").
 9. SAVE--on tape.
6. Right and left margin justification with wrap around.
7. Automatic repeat on all keys and cursor movement (the repeat speed can be changed with a simple poke command)
8. Tab control that is remembered throughout text until changed.
9. Expanded Print--great for highlight!
10. A Byte Counter that continuously displays how many of the 8000 character spaces are available (now it is showing 6616 available). 8000 characters = 11 1/2 full screens of text. It easily expands for larger memories with a simple one line command.
11. Each of the functions have user friendly prompts.
12. Easy access to the Basic Listing for the experimenter. A "GOTO M" command gives instant return to the Menu with all text intact.

COMMENTS

The Word Sinc II is a powerful Word Processor---it's also fun! Once I took a little time to learn it, it became very natural with no bugs and very few frustrations. The only shortcoming I can think of is that the text is not screen formatted in final form. This is done only on the printer.

I am a minister and I have already used it to write sermons, and lectures. The more I use it, the more I marvel at it's usefulness---especially at the low price of \$19.50.

Where To Get It

Send \$19.50 (I added \$1.50 for handling) to:

P. Hargrave
Site U, RR 4
Nanaimo, BC
Can., V9R5X9

I recieved mine in about two weeks.

Yours truly
Walt Johnson

P.S. I found I could work on several documents at once and find each one with a Search Command.

*** WORD SINC II+ ***

By : P. Hargrave
From : GESANG ASSOCIATES
P.O. Box 452
Randallstown, MD 21133
\$20.00 cassette

For those users who need UPPER and lower case but don't want to spend \$350+ for a printer and interface, BUY THIS PROGRAM! What you see here can be obtained using a T/S 1000 or T/S 1500 and a T/S 2040 printer.

Since the program makes extensive use of embedded format screen commands, the display is initially difficult to read. But after working with WORD SINC II+ a few times, one learns.

The documentation is not only thorough, but serves as a quick reference guide.

The program itself is a GEM! Features include: full character set and punctuation with 20 special characters (' * + ! < + ↑ + + | [] % \ @ - _ π & #), adjustable auto-repeat, fast printout (faster than you've seen on the 2040 printer), automatic right hand justification, search, replace, move, insert, delete and expanded print!

16K RAM holds 8000 characters...the program is 8.3K...with space remaining constantly updated and displayed. Plus the program is easily expandable to larger memories by changing one line.

Dennis J. Krill

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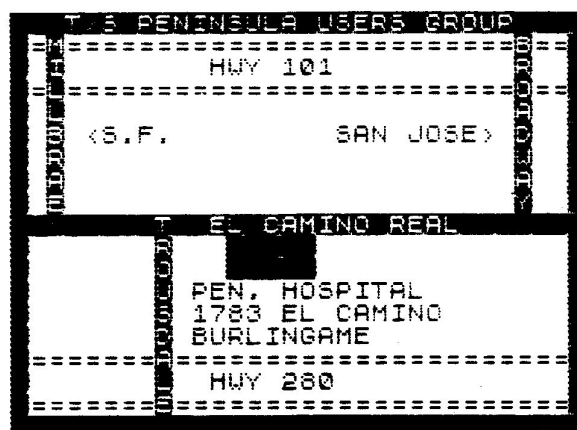
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MEETINGS ARE HELD ON THE 3RD
SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH. 2 P.M.

JAN. 15

FEB. 19

MEET. ROOMS ARE ON LOWER FLOOR.

NOTE PLEASE USE THE ENTRANCE ON
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ALSO TRY TO PARK ON NORTH SIDE,
NOT IN THE VISITORS LOT. THANKS.

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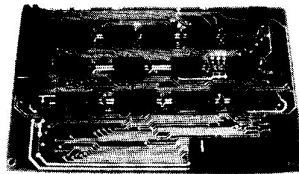
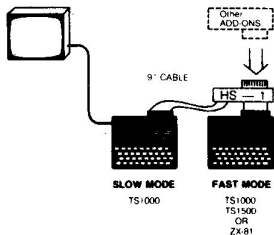
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HIGH SPEED INTERFACE



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- FAST MODE FLICKER NO LONGER OCCURS WHEN ENTERING PROGRAM LINES AND DATA.
- SCREEN DISPLAYS OF PROGRAM LISTINGS AND OUTPUT APPEAR AT AMAZING SPEEDS.
- SOFTWARE LIKE FLIGHT SIMULATOR WILL HAVE RESPONSE TIMES LIKE A FIGHTER JET!

TECHNICAL SUMMARY:

THIS UNIQUE SYSTEM USES DIRECT MEMORY ACCESS TO COPY THE DISPLAY FILE FROM A FAST MODE COMPUTER TO A SLOW MODE TS1000 WHICH THEN PRODUCES THE DISPLAY. THE RESULTING SPEED GAIN IS AN IMPRESSIVE 5.5 TIMES FASTER THAN A SINGLE COMPUTER IN SLOW MODE.

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[CONT. 4]

category called "data" files which can be used to store mailing lists such as might be used for preparation of form letters. This latter use seems to be the major sort of work which the program's authors had in mind, since that seems to be the emphasis of the instruction manual.

Since "Memotext" uses a "load/save" protocol slightly different from the T/S routine, it doesn't seem compatible with any of the fast loading routines on the market.

Could one write a novel with "Memotext"? I suppose so, if one were very determined, but it seems to me best suited for letters, short articles (such as this one) and form letters where the same text must be repeated over and over. For such uses--and especially for typists as clumsy as myself who value the easy correction of errors on the screen--"Memotext" can be a valuable addition to your Timex/Sinclair set-up.

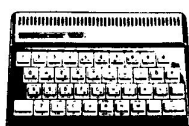
Norm Lehfeldt

TIMEX Sinclair

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TIMELINEZ

[CONT. 1]

TIMEX 2080 PRINTER
PRICE: \$329 (\$299 typical street price)

FEATURES: 9 pin square dot matrix, 80 cps, friction and sprocket paper feed, standard centronics interface (will work with other computers), text and graphics printing, ribbon life - 600,000 chars.

NOTE: Timex considers the print quality to be "correspondence" as opposed to "draft" but not quite "letter". Internal mechanism is supposed to be the same as the Mannesmann Tally MT-80, an Epson MX-80 upgraded clone.

WHEN?
When is a difficult question to answer. The modem might be on sale at SUNSET ELECTRONICS when you read this. We are hoping to give an in-depth review of the modem in the next issue of TIMELINEZ. Everything else has in this article is supposed to be shown at the January CES with special deals being offered to retailers who order for a later delivery. That date has been floating between March 1984 and Mid 1984 which probably means we won't see many of these items on the West Coast until after the East has their fill.

[CONT. 1]

\$200, offers many desirable features usually found on more expensive machines." The article's REPORT CARD gives it an across-the-board rating of excellent. These categories are: SET UP, EASE OF USE, PERFORMANCE, DOCUMENTATION, and SERVICEABILITY. In summary: "(The 2068) is an excellent product that compares well with computers costing far more. It has features that make it attractive to a wide audience, from beginners to assembly-language programmers."

Rita Carr

ATTN: COMMUTERS

Do you commute between San Francisco and San Jose? If so, the user group is looking for someone to transport the printed newsletters once a month.

Please contact Rita Carr at (408) 738-2888 x4579 or George Mockridge at (415) 359-3198.

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